

Message Text

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12

ACTION FSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 OC-05 CCO-00 TRSE-00 /016 W

----- 028578

R 311700Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7219

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 2999

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFIN, ACOM, AFSP, TD

SUBJ: RECURRENT MISSED PAYROLLS

FOR WFC, OC/P AND ARA/MGT

REF: (A) POS 2312 (B) POS 2353 (C) POS 2882 (D) POS 2944

(E) STATE 279905 (F) POS 2969

1. EMBASSY IS UNABLE TO MEET AMERICAN AND LOCAL PAYROLL AS PAYROLL CHECKS HAVE NOT ARRIVED. IN VIEW OF FLIGHT SCHEDULES, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE NEXT POUCH WILL BE RECEIVED BEFORE FRIDAY, JANUARY 3 AT THE EARLIEST.

2. THIS IS BUT ANOTHER INCIDENT IN A SERIES OF PAYROLLING PROBLEMS WE'VE EXPERIENCED OVER THE LAST SIX MONTHS. EARLY THIS FISCAL YEAR, SEVERAL PAYROLLS ARRIVED SEVERAL DAYS LATE. PAYROLL CHECKS FOR PP 18 WERE MISROUTED AND EMERGENCY PAYROLL DISBURSEMENTS HAD TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN ORDER TO PAY THE STAFF. (SEE REF A AND B). IN EARLY DECEMBER, AFTER OTHER PAYDAYS WERE MISSED OR NEARLY MISSED, WE REQUESTED WFC TO TRY TO BETTER CONTROL MAILING SO AT LEAST TO ENSURE TRACEABILITY (REF C). ON DECEMBER 19, WE ASKED OC/P TO IMPROVE SCHEDULING OF POUCH (REF D). WE FELT SOME OF THE DELAYS EXPERIENCED IN PAYROLLS TRANSMITTED MIGHT BE ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE RATHER SPARSE POUCH CLOSING SCHEDULE SINCE MUCH OF OUR CORRESPONDENCE ON RECEIPT CARRIED TYPING DATES 10 OR MORE DAYS EARLIER.

3. POUCH SCHEDULING IMPROVEMENTS PROPOSED IN REF E MAY HELP SOMEWHAT BUT MORE LIKELY THE PROBLEM IS THE UNREALISTIC

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NATURE OF WFC'S PAYROLL AND TREASURY'S CHECK PREPARATION

SCHEDULES AND/OR THEIR METHODS OF FORWARDING ITEMS TO THE POUCH ROOM. THE RESULTING PROBLEM HAS LINGERED ON FOR MONTHS WITHOUT RESOLUTION DESPITE OUR INFORMAL AND CABLED PLEAS FOR IMPROVEMENTS. OUR EMPLOYEES ARE UNDERSTANDABLY IRRITATED WITH THE UNPREDICTABILITY AND A CONSIDERABLE UNJUSTIFIED AMOUNT OF THE ADMIN SECTION'S TIME IS SPENT UNRAVELLING EACH NEW INSTALLMENT OF THIS PROBLEM AND APOLOGIZING TO OUR STAFF.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE AN ARA/MGT COORDINATED REVIEW OF THE PROBLEM WITH APPROPRIATE CORRECTIVE ADJUSTMENTS MADE TO THE SCHEDULES OR PROCEDURES. PLEASE ADVISE.

RICH

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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